

February 9, 1982

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construction and maintenance of state highways. In case you don't know who he is, he is none other than Ronald Reagan, former Governor of California, who is on my side, me and Ronald, Ronald and me. Reagan and Chambers, Chambers and Reagan. Whoever thought you would see that tandem on an issue against such overwhelming odds as I have mentioned. State legislators oppose me and all I have got is the President of the United States on my side. I really feel mistreated and set upon this morning. Members of the Legislature, because I never want to allow myself to break down on this floor, I think what I will do is bring it all to a merciful halt for all of us. But I am going to tell you really why I am terminating my struggle for this morning, because Senator Nichol is now sitting in the Chair and I would like him to be able to say, that without uttering a word, without striking gavel to desk top, he was able to do what nobody else could do, and that is end the discussion on February 9th at 11:09 of the North Freeway. But remember what I promised you, the whole project is a monstrosity and a monster is that which deviates so much from what is natural to one of its kind that it is considered a freak. This monster has three feet, two shoes have been taken care of. You passed Senator Newell's resolution, LR 189 in 1981. You killed my bill in 1982. So there must be a third shoe, and I assure you that I have put it up on the desk and I will fight, fight, fight, and you would appreciate what I am doing. Were I on your issue, were you afraid to speak, you would be happy to have somebody who was fearless, who would not be put off by angry looks. So we will discuss this issue again this session and I can't promise you how many more times, but at least one, and then maybe I will leave the Legislature after fighting valiantly and losing again and again, and do what Senator Cavanaugh did who fought valiantly on a number of issues and lost again and again, and go from here to Congress. But one thing is certain, we are writing a record in history and our words will justify us and our words will condemn us. I have a number of things in the record and this final point for today, then I will leave you. You haven't had the rest of the story yet, that will come later. When a state knows that it does not have the money to complete a project which can be destructive of a community and proceeds with reckless disregard for the consequences, or of the consequences to that damaged community, I think the state opens itself up to liability, and if I have to take the Bar Examination and fight the action myself, you can count on it.

SENATOR NICHOL PRESIDING

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